





Helping Those Most in Need

Since 1978, the LOVE FUND has extended its hand to those neglected, unfortunate people who deserve a chance. It's the last hope for some people.... It's a bag of groceries for a starving Senior Citizen... A few gallons of fuel for a young mother with a new baby... It's needed medicine for an elderly person.... a warm meal, a new pair of shoes, a small toy, and so much more. The LOVE FUND is for people who are too proud to ask for help... Forced to make a choice between food and heat.

It's for non-profit groups, food services and shelters and direct aid agencies to help those who would be normally turned away. Not a cent of the collected funds go to "Administrative Costs", and all expenses, talent and efforts are graciously donated by WABK and their on air personalities.

The LOVE FUND is people helping people. Thank you for your contributions!

WABK LOVE FUND AGENCIES

HEALTHY FUTURES, WINTHROP

MOTIVATIONAL SERVICES, AUGUSTA

WINTHROP AREA HOT MEALS KITCHEN

MAINE CHILDREN'S HOME, WATERVILLE

KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, AUGUSTA (JAMES WOOD)

AUGUSTA FOOD BANK, ST. MARKS CHURCH, AUGUSTA

SET FREE IN MAINE, WINSLOW

GREATER WATERVILLE AREA FOOD BANK, WATERVILLE

FAMILIES FIRST, AUGUSTA

SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS CENTER, AUGUSTA (DONNA STRICKLER)

LITCHFIELD COMMUNITY FOOD BANK, LITCHFIELD

HOSPITALITY HOUSE, HINCKLEY

MUSKIE CENTER, WATERVILLE

SACRED HEART SOUP KITCHEN, WATERVILLE (DICK WILLETTE)

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRIES, AUGUSTA

CHRYSALIS PLACE, GARDINER

HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS, WATERVILLE (DALE CLARK)

LINC SOCIAL CLUB, AUGUSTA

INSIDE OUT PLAYGROUND, WATERVILLE

SENIOR SPECTRUM, WATERVILLE

FAMILY VIOLENCE PROJECT, AUGUSTA

COMMUNITY FOOD BANK, NORTH MONMOUTH

ALZHEIMERS CENTER, GARDINER

BIG BROTHER, BIG SISTERS, AUGUSTA

MID-MAINE HOMELESS SHELTER

WABK "LOVE FUND REPORT"

December 31, 2006

ORGANIZATION NAME: Kennebec Valley Community Action Program

AMOUNT GIVEN	<u>USED FOR</u>
\$14.41	Client in need of diapers and food.
\$106.40	Family w/6 children in crisis. Children in need of snowpants, boots and appropriate winter clothing. The baby was in need of diapers as mom could not use food stamps for diaper purchase.
\$40.00	Teen client moving to a new apartment. Needed gas for their truck in order to move to new apartment.
\$14.18	Client in need of cleaning supplies. Child was sick and mom needed supplies before the child went home.
\$15.00	Client needed to obtain a birth certificate for her child relating to the sale of the transitional houses.
\$49.88	Teen mom with health issues needed assistance to care for baby that is extremely fussy and won't stop crying. A swing was purchased to hopefully calm the baby's crying and reduce household stress.
\$54.92	Mom with two small children working on home safety and housekeeping goals. Purchased vacuum cleaner for mom.
\$24.99	Family with two children, ages two and four. Gate was purchased to keep children out of kitchen when parents were cooking. 2 yr old child was imitating parents by climbing up to stove area and pretending to cook.
\$40.24	Single mom with two children, ages 4 and 6 in need of assistance for Christmas. Mom had lost job and had not been successful finding another. Waited too long before she asked for assistance. Other area Christmas assistance programs were no longer accepting applications. Purchased pajamas and toys for children.

Submitted by: Celine Denis, KVCAP-Social Services, 97 Water St., Waterville, ME 04901



WABK "LOVE FUND REPORT"

ORGANIZATION NAME Healthy Futures

AMOUNT GIVEN	<u>USED FOR</u>
+407.97 total VARIOUS AMOUNTS to differents	Food for participants food haskets ont Giff certificates to MR market
\$ 16.W	Flowers for hospitalized patient
\$ 50.W	Central ME Power - electric Bill particip
# 25 W	Medications for participant
\$ 50.00	Haring Oil for preticipants
\$ 30. W	4mas gifts for paragons in need



Life-Enhancing Solutions for Adults

January 23, 2007

WABK Love Fund 150 Whitten Road Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Friends of Cohen:

On behalf of SENIOR SPECTRUM, it is our pleasure to send our thanks for your support and very generous donation from the WABK Love Fund fundraiser. We will be sending you under separate cover, the "Love Fund Report" once the funds have been disbursed. Thank you again for your generosity.

With the increased service demand and decreasing support dollars, it is contributions like yours that keep our programs strong and enable us to provide services to seniors in Southern Kennebec County. Your generosity during these times is greatly appreciated by Center staff and volunteers and the Center's Local Advisory Council.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,

Maggie Tardiff

W.S. Cohen Community Center

MJT/kmp

N.B. This letter will serve as your receipt. Please retain for your tax records. This donation will be used solely to benefit the programs of Senior Spectrum's Cohen Community Center. The donor has received no consideration for this gift. Your contribution is deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

HOW TO REACH US 1.800.639.1553

FACSIMILE 207.622.7857

WORLD WIDE WEB
www.seniorspectrum.com

A D M I N I S T R A T L O M

AUGUSTA

One Weston Court Office

COMMUNITYCENTERS

BELFAST

Waldo Community Center

HALLOWELL

William S. Cohen Community Center

PO Box 272 Hallowell, ME 04347-0272

WATERVILLE

Muskie Community Center

RESOURCECENIERS

BATH

Sagadahoc County Center

DAMARISCOTTA

Coastal Resource Center

ROCKLAND

Knox Resource Center

SKOWHEGAN

Somerset Resource Center

SENIOR SPECTRUM provides



Life-Enhancing Solutions for Adults

January 25, 2007

Don Brown, WABK Bobbi Kirchdorfer, Clear Channel Radio 150 Whitten Road Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Don and Bobbi,

Thank you so much for your donation to SENIOR SPECTRUM's Muskie Community Center in Waterville. You have answered the needs of many people in the communities we serve.

As you requested, a report of how these funds are used will be sent to you.

On behalf of the staff, volunteers, and consumers at Muskie Community Center, thank you.

Sincerely,

Carmen Bedard Office Manager

Carmin Bedard

This letter will serve as your receipt. Please retain for your tax records. This gift will be used solely to benefit the programs of Senior Spectrum. The donor has received no consideration for this gift. Your contribution is deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

HOW TO REACH US 1.800.639.1553

FACSIMILE 207.622.7857

WORLD WIDE WEBwww.seniorspectrum.com

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AUGUSTA

One Weston Court Office

COMMUNITY CENTERS

BELFAST

Waldo Community Center

HALLOWELL

William S. Cohen Community Center

WATERVILLE

Muskie Community Center 38 Gold Street Waterville, ME 04901

RESOURCE CENTERS

BATH

Sagadahoc County Center

DAMARISCOTTA

Coastal Resource Center

ROCKLAND

Knox Resource Center

SKOWHEGAN

Somerset Resource Center

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SENIOR SPECTRUM provides an array of options for vital and independent living.



Office of Philanthropy

157 Capitol Street Augusta, Maine 04330 Phone: 207.626.1809 Fax: 207.621.2713 30 Chase Avenue Waterville, Maine 04901 Phone: 207.872.4118 Fax: 207.872.4014

www.mainegeneral.org/make_a_gift

Mr. Don Brown WABK Love Fund C/O Clear Channel 150 Whitten Road Augusta, ME 04330-6021

Receipt of Donation

This correspondence documents receipt of a gift on 1/26/2007 from WABK Love Fund in the correspondence documents receipt of a gift on 1/26/2007 from WABK Love Fund in the correspondence of the corre

Thank you for your generous support of MaineGeneral Health.

This is an official receipt and should be retained for your records. Tax ID# 04-3369653. We confirm that you have received neither goods nor services in return for this gift.



Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area 304 Main Street Waterville, ME 04901

(207) 873-3615 ~ (207) 873-5094 hospiceinfo@hvwa.org ~ www.hvwa.org

January 23, 2007

Mr. Don Brown Clear Channel Radio 150 Whitten Road Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Mr. Brown,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers here at Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for the Love Fund donation in the amount.

As you know, HVWA provides compassionate and practical volunteer support to the terminally ill, grieving individuals and their families. 2006 was a busy year at Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area: The number of individuals and families we served at the end-of-life increased 70%; Participation in Hopes Place (our program for grieving children and teens) increased 42%; Camp Ray of Hope attendance was up 22%; Your gift helps make it possible for us to continue offering these services, and more, to people of all ages in the twenty-five communities we serve.

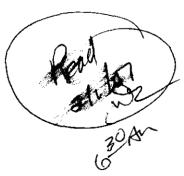
We look forward to your continued support. You can also help if you know of someone who may benefit from our services please let them know about HVWA, or feel free to contact us for additional information at (207) 873-3615.

Sincerely,

Dale Marie Clark
Executive Director

Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 22-2503856. No goods or services were received in consideration of this gift. Please use this document as a tax receipt for your donation.





WABK "LOVE FUND REPORT"

ORGANIZATION NAME Sacred Heart Soup Kitchen
72 Ple a sant St.
Water ville Me 04901

AMOUNT GIVEN

USED FOR

A	Food for Cooking, See Attached Sheet.
Lear Don, Charge-and	Staff of The Love Fund
The amount sent to	as will be used and spent on Canned
geres at universale p	- 1230 pm each day minday Thro Friday,
IN 9 MM / 116 1611120	45692 Meals at our soup Reference
- 11 TO 112711 (Ar. 1.A. 1.T. 10	don't there and we intend to help, and waker it a lot easier to stay open. we
at our Kitchen are o	ery happy your fund raiser has such
7	Thank of Trally.
	Wick Willette Sucred Heart Soup Kitchen - director
	Sucret Hear Soup Million

FROM :

JJA

FAX NO. : 2078735393

Jun. 17 2006 08:37AM P2

Invoic

invoice Numb 128

Invoice Dat

Jun 14, 20

Pag

√oice 207-873 5393 207-873-5393 Fax:

H & S Wholesaid

4 Lee Suseet Winslow, ME 04901

Soid To:

Social Justice a Peace Pleasant Street Waterville, ME 04901

Ship to: SAME

Customer ID	Customer PO	Payment Te	Payment Terms Net 7 Days	
114		Net 7 D		
Sales Rep ID	Shipping Method	Ship Date	Due Date	
	H & E Wholesale	6/17/06	6/21/0€	
Quantity	Item Description	Unit Price	Extension	
6.00 178	5/10 Bush Baked Beans	11.25	247.5	
€.00 178	6/10 Green Beans	30.38	162.2	
3.00 170	6/10 Green Peas	26.18	130.9	
5.00 178	6/10 Cream Style Corn	31.75	158.7	
5.00 178	8x16 oz Beef Gravy Mix	32.31	161.5	
1.00 427	4/1 Gal Magic Coleslaw I		38.1	
2.00 175	16x12 oz Squeeze Mustaro		37.2	
4.00 179	6/10 Dided Tomatoes	23.31	93.2	
1.00 189	4/1 Gal. Ital. Dressing	35,42	35.4	
3.00 178	8x32 oz Cheese Sauce Mix	51.70	185.	
6.00 178	12x50 oz Tomato Soup	37.90	227,4	
6.00 178	12x46 oz Tomato Juice	20.84	125.0	
2.00 178	6/10 Pickled Bects	28.93	57.	
4.00 178	12x1# Dry Lasagna Noodle	15.34	61.3	
6.00 975	6/10 Marinera Sauce	26.94	161.6	
4.CO 178	Zx5# Dry Noodles	12.15	48.6	
3.00 173	6/10 Stewed Tomatoes	27.25	81.7	
6.00 231	1x20 oz Onion Powder	6.93	41.5	
3.00 178	24x14 oz Squeeze Ketchno	30.84	92.5	
2.00 178	12x28 oz ExCel Potato	53.04	106.0	
2.00 178	12x12.7 oz Squeeze Relis	h 19.43	38.8	
-1.00 231	Allowence by Vendor	187.60	-187.6	

Subtotal Sales Tax Total Invoice Amount Payment Received

2,125.00 2,125.00

0.00

TOTAL

2,125.00

H. Don, We put an order in like This Twice a year. Just for Camad goods (2007) 10.15 Wile

Check No:

DGEWOCK COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD, INC 824 WINDING HILL ROAD NORRIDGEWOCK ,ME 04957

207-634-3219 TAX ID# 01-0508475

Jan 17, 04. Repet 10702

Hello Don,

Received your generous donation today a wanted to thank you as soon as we could. I hope I filled out the form you cent the right way. If

you ever need us to help with A campaign just let me know.

thank's Again for supporting our Cupboard. We're a small town our cupboard. We're a small town or need all the help we can get.

Heep up the Good World!

Carolin Hoseman, Durerten 207-634-3219.



WABK "LOVE FUND REPORT"

ORGANIZATION NAME Norridgewock Comm. Food Cupbeard Inc.

AMOUNT GIVEN	<u>USED FOR</u>
	food - cerent- ment-
	hunelment - can goods -
	pastal sauce - Baked beans -
	toilet paper - Launday detengent
	a mone. We shop not
	the Good Shephend in Lewiston
	aget the most for our \$.
	<u> </u>



Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area

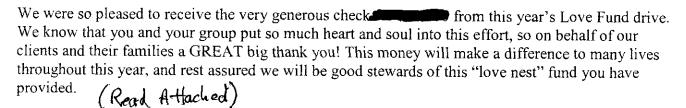
304 Main Street • P.O. Box 200 Waterville, ME 04903-0200 (207) 873-3615 • Fax: (207) 873-5094

hospiceinfc@hvwa.org • www.hvwa.org

Thursday, January 25, 2007

Don Brown WABK Radio 150 Whitten Road Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Don.



As you know, Hospice Volunteers provide services, for up to two years prior to a death, such as companionship, respite to family members who need a break, or help with errands and transportation. Our volunteers are compassionate listeners who offer emotional support as well as practical support. We also offer comprehensive bereavement services to family members following a death. There is no fee for these volunteer services, which are offered to people in twenty-four communities throughout Central Maine. Our annual weekend retreat for grieving people of all ages is offered to people statewide at a nominal fee. Hospice Volunteers do not offer professional medical care, but we do complement those services so the whole family unit is better supported and everyone's needs are considered.

Don, we do look forward to a continued relationship with you and the "Love Fund," and are so grateful for your presence in our lives. God Bless!

Warmly,

Dale Marie Clark **Executive Director**

Richard Bickford Dan Clark Doug Cutchin, Co-Chair Sister Mae Doucette, Life-Time Karl Foss Jill Gilbert Melissa Leighton Eric Leimbach John Margolis, M.D.

28 TICONIC ST PO Box 2612



WATERVILLE, ME 04903-2612

Susan Reisert, Co-Chair Michael Roderique Jonathan Rogers, Clerk Michael Roy Arthur Sawtelle Rev. Mark Tanner Wayne Theriault Joanne Webber Barbara Worthley

MID-MAINE HOMELESS SHELTER

(207) 872-6550 + (207) 872-8082 MIKE MARSTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 25, 2007

Don Brown Love Fund Coordinator ClearChannel Radio 150 Whitten Road Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Mr. Brown:

Please accept our sincerest thanks for your generous contribution (With your help, we will continue to provide a warm, welcoming, and safe environment for our guests during their stay at the shelter. It is always our goal to also provide the necessary help and resources for our guests to reestablish their independence and get a fresh start in life.

The Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter is a non-profit organization committed to serving the needs of homeless and displaced persons. It is supported by the donations of Churches, individuals, Public Service Groups, and businesses in Central Maine.

The Shelter first opened on November 26, 1990, in the Notre Dame Christian Awareness Center at 110 Silver Street as the temporary, 6-bed Interfaith Emergency Shelter. Eleven months later, a permanent home was located at 28 Ticonic Street. In 1994, a two-floor, 12-foot by 16 foot extension was added to provide office space and relieve some of the over-crowding. In November of 1996, a family unit was added downstairs so that families could remain together.

It is our challenge to provide emergency shelter in Central Maine for our homeless neighbors and families. It is our hope to build a new shelter in the near future to accommodate the increasing homeless population.

Thank you so much for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Mike Marston

Executive Director

Reproviding Emergency Food, & Shelter to Homeless and Displaced Persons in central Maine 🗴

We Thought You Should Know

January 3, 2007

Dear -----



We, the undersigned, are members of the <u>Maine Clear Channel Advisory Board</u> and represent many varied aspects of our respective communities. At our last meeting (9/12/06), it was decided to let the corporate headquarters for Clear Channel know just how much <u>Maine Clear Channel</u> does in filling voids in our communities that are not community funded and rely on other options such <u>as Clear Channel</u> reaching out to the public.

The Clear Channel Advisory Board Mission Statement is:

To identify specific issues that affect our communities and heighten local awareness of these issues and provide avenues through which the people in these communities may be involved first hand in their solutions.

The State of Maine is a rural state with a population of slightly over 1.25 million people and nearly as many diverse needs for each of their communities, <u>Maine Clear Channel</u> has begun to make a difference in each of our communities and we cite such examples as:

- 1) Camp P.O.S.T.C.A.R.D. Camp for troubled students who are paired up with law enforcement officers. Annual Rock Relief Concert (all bands donate their time) raised over \$4,000.
- 2) 2nd Annual Back to School Clothing Drive Clothing gathered at 3 Ford dealerships, 300 children were fed and received clothing and donated school backpacks filled with school supplies.
- Food for Families Hannaford stores donated 103 turkeys, The Maine Potato Board donated 103 five pound bags of potatoes, Clear Channel broadcasted in October for listeners to donate non-perishables to fill the baskets, for 103 families, with any overflow going to local food banks and shelters.
- 4) Fuel for Families Area blues bands donated their time for 3 shows bringing in over \$5000. Total funds raised thus far are almost \$10,000.
- 5) Campaign for Volunteerism PSA's aimed at people wanting to volunteer or people in need of volunteers to log on to: VolunteerME.org. The number of "hits" at this site has increased greatly since the campaign began.
- 6) Fundraiser The Maine Blues Society sponsored a benefit for The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America with Clear Channel PSA's.

- 7) Caring Van Activities – National Assisted Living Week, 3-5 k run to benefit Mt. View High School Performing Arts Center, Maine Children's Trust Trooper relay, etc.,etc.
- 8) Kelly Slater (Market Manager) participated in the American Lung Association Bike trek. Kelly also formed a team and along with other Clear Channel teams, weatherized more than 16 homes in the Northern and Central Maine area

Suffice it to say that this list is not all inclusive but merely some of the highlights of this past year.

Working with Maine Clear Channel has been a privilege and rewarding experience in each of our communities. We salute Kelly Slater and her team from Clear Channel as they have had a profound impact in our communities and look forward to a continued partnership. We just "Thought you should know" what Maine Clear Channel has accomplished in just a year's time.

Sincerely,

Jue Some McPhe Resident & CEO
Med-Maine Chamber & Commerce

Lyvre a Vailey Family Violence Project

Paul & Benjami North Atlantic Blues Festiva (

Mark Sellie'zu Communications Director U. S Representative Tom Alen Marcia Homstead Sr. Executive Secretary to the Senate President

Sobut Verrill Consult ant.

Home Ware, SI Proc.

William P. Guilo Winslow School Admin istrator (Ret)



Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine

October 1, 2003

Board of Directors Mr. Don Shields

WRKD/WMCM

President

15 Payne Ave.

Jim Butler

Rockland, Maine 04841

Vice President

Marianne Doyle

Dear Don:

Secretary

Doug Linder

Treasurer

Ben van der Schaaf

On behalf of the learners and volunteers of Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine, I would like to sincerely thank you and the radio station for allowing Star

Catell to change our public service announcements.

Polly Black Kim Fletcher Henry Lunn Keith Wass Stephen Little We were as reluctant as you to make the changes to such a wonderful and useful publicity tool, but some changes on the national level made the changes vital to the way we serve our adult learners on the local level.

Program Director Beth Gifford

Thanks to the assistance we have received from radio stations like yours, we were about to serve 454 adult learners in the last fiscal year alone. Our dedicated and hardworking 172 trained volunteers gave over 30,000 volunteer hours to serve the members of our community who need assistance in improving their reading, writing and related literacy skills.

Advisory Board Tim Dresser Ned Kyle

As evidenced by our annual statistics, your assistance is very important to spreading the word about the vital work we do.

Thank you again for allowing the changes and continuing to spread the message to support the cause of literacy.

If you should have any questions about the services we provide, please feel free to call me at 594-5154.

Sincerely,

Bern a. Hufford Beth A. Gifford

Program Director

Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine

28 Lincoln Street

Rockland, ME 04841-2940

Pi ane (207) 594-5154

(207) 594-5154 F٤

ord@midcoast.com



Board of Directors

President

Fran Moore

Vice President

Jim Butler

Secretary

Louisa Gerstenberger

Treasurer

Jeannine Annis

Development Director

Ned Kyle

Marianne Doyle
Doug Linder
Christine Maxcy

Affiliate Coordinator

Beth Gifford

Advisory Board

Tim Dresser

June 14, 2001

Don Shields

WRKD/WMCM

15 Payne Ave.

Rockland, ME 04841

Dear Don:

This is just a short letter of 'thank you' from Literacy Volunteers of America, Mid-Coast Affiliate. We are very grateful that you allowed Stan Catell to record our Public Service Announcement and then share it with the other radio stations.

We just wanted you to know we have received statewide response fron the PSA. Many of the other LVA affiliates in the state are amazed and impressed with the professional performance of the announcer and the quality of the PSA.

Once again, 'thank you' for playing our PSA. We have enclosed a couple of LVA bookmarks and an invitation to our annual meeting should you care to attend.

Sincerely,

Beth A. Gifford

Affiliate Coordinator,

Beth a. Hefford

LVA Mid-Coast

FRENCH - UPPER - LOWER CEMETERY COMMITTEES Lincolnville, Maine 04849

August 5, 2002

WMCM 103.3 FM Radio 14 Payne Avenue Rockland, ME 04841

Gentlemen:

I am writing on behalf of the cemeteries to express our sincere appreciation to you your support of our annual chicken barbecue by announcing it over the air.

The barbecue was a big success. We sold all 280 dinners in short order and we realized profit of \$1200.54, which is shared by the two cemetery committees, the money to used for maintenance work in keeping the cemeteries looking nice.

Again, thanks so much for your contribution.

Sincerely,

A. Dawson Wootton

a Dawson Woother-

Chairman

MID-COAST MAINE SOAP BOX DERBY



Dear Ms. Hembrough,

On behalf of the Mid-Coast Maine Soap Box Derby Committee, we wou like to thank you for your support of our May 5-6 and May 12-13 rallie the Rockland Industrial Park, and for our local race June 2nd in Came The publicity WRKD provided for the derby is greatly appreciated. We 40 racers participate May 5-6, and 80 May 12-13. Racers came from many parts of Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and, New York. We were especially pleased this year with the large turn out of local racers. Several of these local participants placed well at our Mid-Coast race in Camden on June 2nd. There we had 99 racers. Derby racing is a great family activity, that helps these children to grow in many ways. With yo help, derby racing is thriving in Mid-Coast Maine.

Appreciative

Jim Curtis



September 2002

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for your generous contribution towards the 2002 Memory Wal that will be held here at the Knox Center on October 5, 2002. This event benefits the Alzheimer's Association of Maine. This is a receipt you can retain for your records. Again, we want to thank you.

Item Donated	2	Books	Value 3L 90

Enda Meradard CNH

Sincerely,

Memory Walk Committee Member



September 2002

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for your generous contribution towards the 2002 Memory Wal that will be held here at the Knox Center on October 5, 2002. This event benefits the Alzheimer's Association of Maine. This is a receipt you can retain for your records. Again, we want to thank you.

	2 Real Country Hosts	
Item Donated	2 Real Country Hosts 2 Real Country T-SHIRTS	Value #40

Sincerely,

Memory Walk Committee Member

Lenda Mutaland

Smith, Mark

From:

ROAK, DON

Sent:

Wednesday, December 07, 2005 08:28

To:

Smith, Mark

Subject: FW: Senior Spectrum/Love Fund

I RECEIVED THIS IN MY EMAIL THIS MORNING.

DON

----Original Message-----

From: Debra Silva [mailto:dsilva@seniorspectrum.com]

Sent: Wednesday, December 07, 2005 07:22

To: ROAK, DON

Subject: Senior Spectrum/Love Fund

Hi Donald.

I had the opportunity to attend your Love Fund informational meeting several weeks ago and have wanted to drop a line to thank you for the work you are doing on this. You have a very clear understanding of the "nonprofit world" and the challenges (as well as victories) that come with it.

Senior Spectrum is actually the Central Maine Area on Aging which was created several decades ago when Congress passed the Older Americans Act. We provide quite a few services although most folks think only of Meals on Wheels when they hear our name. So, I will start with that program... it is literally a life-saving program. While the hot meal is crucial for their health many of these consumers would tell you they feel the "visit" is even more important as they are alone and feel isolated. Their Meals on Wheels volunteer driver becomes their connection to the outside world. It is so sad that many fear they will become very ill or even pass away and no one would even know - but the driver is there for them. We have a system in place should no one answer the door and we work with local law enforcement to keep then safe. Of course, this program then allows us to get to know them and we are able to bring other services to enhance the quality of their lives. Don, we are all about keeping seniors at home where they want to be - for many they just need that little bit of extra help we provide to allow them to stay where they are as opposed to being placed in a nursing home, etc. And for those who are not homebound, we offer hot meals right at our centers, too.

We have 7 centers and WABK has been wonderful in supporting our two largest: the Cohen Center just around the corner from you and the Muskie Center in Waterville.

These two centers also have an Adult DayBreak program. Some would refer to this as day care for seniors but it is much more. It is a place for family members and caregivers to bring a loved one for the day while they go to work, etc. These are people who cannot be left alone. We do not "babysit" but rather provide a great environment where they learn, go on trips, create and make new friends. They have a full calendar and from this they flourish. Family members report significant changes in their attitudes and outlook on life. It is pretty neat, Newly created from the Older Americans Act a couple of years ago is our Family Caregiver Program. Here we focus on the Caregiver - not the person being cared for or their disease as other programs are out there that do that. Caregivers have a rough road and we are able to support them, provide respite and referrals for whatever they need. It amazes me that Congress was able to understand the huge growth in family caregivers and the challenges they have. Many are taking advantage of this. It took a little while because most family members who help their parents, for example, do not define themselves as a caregiver. Yet they had to quit jobs or move a parent into their home and drastically alter their own lives. We are able to help them make this road a little easier.

Right now our agency is focusing on the new Medicare part D program. As you know, it is in the news everyone and we are getting thousands of calls agency wide. Seniors are confused and scared. We have very knowledgeable staff in this area but they began training on it 8 months ago. Just imagine how a senior feels. So we are very stretched right now dealing with this but it feels good to be able to help so many. Our Information and Assistance program deals with anything and everything that is a concern to the aging population or their family members. Staff are constantly being trained year round to keep up with all the assistance programs we can offer seniors. We want to hear from any senior or family member who has question. If we do not provide the service

they need then we can refer them to one of the many organizations that we regularly collaborate with. No question is too minor or silly. This is why we are here and what we love doing.

Finally, I would like to add a note about "socialization". Some might say that trips, dances, computer classes and such are not really that important - they are not life-saving - and they are partly correct. Yet I like to respond to them that depression and suicide rates are high with this population. They may lose a spouse and have no joy in their lives. They feel their lives are meaningless. What if my own mother felt this way? By engaging them in center activities they meet new friends, learn new skills and start to feel good again. And the centers win because many of them decide to volunteer as helping others seems helps themselves.

I have been long winded and there is so much more I could share. But I hope this gives you an idea of what our agency does everyday. We are blessed to have over 500 volunteers who believe in our mission and support us. The most recent census has shown a shift of central Maine now having more seniors than Southern Maine which is a real indication that we have to keep up the pace and plan ahead for what the baby boomers will demand from us when they need help.

And thanks to people like you we are able to continue to be there for seniors. Thank you, Don, and please let me know if I can be of any help to you in your Love Fund project.

Sincerely

Debra Silva

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